

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

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**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY****November 16, 2007****California Self-Help Housing Program**

I am pleased to announce the availability of approximately \$3.3 million in funding for technical assistance grants under the Department's Self-Help Housing Program. Grants will be funded from the proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by the voters in November 2006 under Proposition 1C. Technical assistance grants are available to local public entities or nonprofit corporations, including limited equity housing cooperatives, as defined in Health and Safety Code section 33007.5 that provide technical and supervisory assistance to low- and moderate-income households to build their homes. The goal of the program is to increase housing opportunities by reducing the costs of newly constructed housing using "sweat equity" (self-help labor).

Technical assistance grants are limited to \$300,000 per project with no more than twenty percent (20%) of the available funds awarded to any one sponsor. Twenty percent (20%) of the available funds are reserved for rural area projects for the twelve months following issuance of this Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). Applicants must be able to complete all grant-funded activities within the two-year grant term.

Technical assistance funds may be used for the following purposes: assistance, training, and supervision on self-help construction activities and techniques. Applicants are advised to familiarize themselves with the Statute and Regulations relating to the Program. The Statute can be found at Health and Safety Code section 50696 subdivision (b)(1). The Regulations can be found at [California Code of Regulations, Title 25, Div. 1, Ch. 7, Subchapter 6.5, Sections 7530-7556](#). Also, please refer to Government Code Section 16727 for eligible uses of Government Bonds, specifically the portion that states ". . . Costs allowable under this section include costs incidentally but directly related to construction or acquisition, including, but not limited to, planning, engineering, construction management, architectural, and other design work, environmental impact reports and assessments, required mitigation expenses, appraisals, legal expenses, site acquisitions, and necessary easements".

Applications will be reviewed for completeness and compliance with the California Self-Help Housing Program statutes and regulations. Applications will then be evaluated and funding recommendations will be based upon the following factors:

- The applicant has successfully completed a minimum of two self-help, new-construction projects within the four years immediately preceding the application;
- Administrative budget reflects line items eligible under the above-mentioned references;
- The project assists low- or moderate-income households, who shall occupy the property as their principal residence; and
- The project is feasible.

Application and Program Regulations and guidelines are available on the Department's website at [www.hcd.ca.gov](http://www.hcd.ca.gov), by writing to the address listed below, by calling Dee Franklin at (916) 445-9581, or by sending an e-mail to [DFranklin@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:DFranklin@hcd.ca.gov).

**Applications under this NOFA will be considered on an "over-the-counter" basis** and accepted at any time after the issuance of this NOFA and until such time as the Department has received what it determines to be a sufficient number of applications to reasonably use all funds currently available. Applications must be made on the form provided by the Department, which must not be modified. The original application is to be submitted in a three-ring binder. All exhibits must be tabbed and labeled with the appropriate Exhibit #, as identified on the checklist. No additional copies are required. No facsimiles will be accepted.

The Department reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to suspend or amend the provisions of this NOFA. If such an action occurs, the Department will notify all interested parties. This NOFA provides a partial summary of the Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Program statute and regulations. For this reason, applicants are urged to carefully review the regulations and the information contained in this NOFA before submitting applications.

Send one completed original application to:

U.S. Mail

Dee Franklin  
CalHome Program  
Department of Housing and  
Community Development  
P.O. Box 952054, Room 390-2  
Sacramento, CA 94252-2054

Private Carrier or Overnight Delivery

Dee Franklin  
CalHome Program  
Department of Housing and  
Community Development  
1800 Third Street, Room 390-2  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Thank you for your interest in the California Self-Help Housing Program.

Sincerely yours,

Chris Westlake  
Deputy Director